

Judges Feedback for 2005 CHINFO Merit Awards

Category A: Radio Entertainment Program

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

“The Blitz Morning Show”

JO3 Courtney Dock/JO1 Pete Robertson

Judge #1

Forced laughter. Too much banter with no real information. It's supposed to be an entertainment program but I'm not entertained. Seemed to have a lack of show prep. Is there a real reason for a two-man show?

Judge #2

What is Courtney's purpose on this show? Is she "like" the party girl? Best to have one person be the "funny/flakey" person and one be the serious guy to real them in...both hosts are laughing too much and not getting much information or music out.

Work on show prep, such as what is the date today, etc. What kind of material do you have besides "off the cuff" stuff? Is this a commercial for red bull? B-day donut...you were late coming in...

What is so funny? I didn't laugh once, but Courtney and Peter do!!!!

Judge ##

humor is only funny when the audience is in on the joke...Courtney simply laughs way too much when there is no reason...leaves the audience on the outside...

good rapport between jocks but the show prep and command information was lacking

good energy but female is a bit too over the top...trying too hard

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

“Block Rockin’ Beats”

JO2 Peter Lawlor

Judge #1

Opening is really good! The whole persona thing just doesn't work. Show prep...didn't know that the cheerleaders were 1st-timers to GITMO. Why did you change your persona during the cheerleader interview and during the CI readers? Radio personality sounds forced & serves no purpose. You need to prepare for a show, not just wing it! All the pros who do radio prep all their material and are well organized...you seem to have little direction and babble. You said you “brought back some music from Japan” and are going to play it...keep in mind that you are only authorized to play only AFRTS CD's...not something you can buy at the NEX or elsewhere. It's the regulation.

Judge #2

-Nice opening...

-your slang might be offensive to people, such as a southern accent done incorrectly

-opening too long

-play the music

-who cares where you went? Does it have some kind of entertainment/command information appeal?

-You are a different person when you read CI.

-Show prep?

Judge #3

-Your boy didn't represent, hold down or put down the command information in the house...AFRTS Radio is a vehicle to present Command Information to your audience through the entertainment of music.

-Interview with cheerleaders - answered his own questions...didn't let them talk as much as he did...didn't know it was their first time on island (show Prep!)

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“Rush Hour Rock”
JO2 Scott Torres

Judge #1

Drops were good, nice use of cheerleaders. Not a very enthusiastic delivery. Movies, need energy and selling, you sounded like it was a task to read the movie list. Liven up some...loosen up some, too straight forward...you're working a rock show, your promo showed personality, but your show lacked personality...The promo person should be the on-air person. Why didn't you work the Veteran's Day angle?

Judge #2

- you are puking.
- you prepped for your show opening--yeah!...should have walked the van halen ramp
- movie times delivery sounds like you are reading...did you pre-read this before you went on air?
- your delivery is very odd...you don't sound like a real person
- do some show prep to provide something entertaining...call ins, humor, celebrity news?

Judge ##

- Veterans Day show - no prep for it...
- Absolutely no music ramps...use your music while conveying information...too many stops and starts...music...stop...talk...music...it should all flow together.
- "Hot for Teacher" ramp was plenty long enough for any reader, but you didn't use it!
- Nice drops with the cheerleaders, liners and show promo
- No audience interaction
- Give me some personality...very flat delivery

NMC Det Souda Bay, Greece
“107.3 Odyssey Launch”
JO2 Dale Eng

****because the CD was not packaged correctly the judges heard each clip individually and had no reference as to where they were in the show. This caused some confusion as the CO interview and official “kick off” was several clips into the entry. Please ensure future submissions are provided as on entire element of the show.**

Judge #1

Nice delivery. Phone-in...I like the fact that you use it. Too much editorializing in the phone-in. And the joke didn't work. Also, too long. You take requests as well. 1st broadcast should've been more upbeat...a party atmosphere, but it was very low-key and boring. Should've used the closing of the show for the thank you's...not a bit; didn't work.

Judge #2

- nice conversational delivery from first guy
- "we're settling in now"...I'm disappointed, like you.
- second guy's role is?
- third guy sounds excited...that's good!
- good job getting out with your audience and including their comments
- a contest...yeah!
- this is your first show? how about a little history of the station, and how the music show came about?
- why are you doing the show?
- now I'm getting it, since we're now hearing the CO...why was this so late in the show?

Judge #3

- Very conversational - good voice quality
- Good effort
- Not terribly original
- Not sure if this is a talk or music show
- Shorten/ break up the segments...the opening segment went on and on and on

NMC Det Misawa, Japan
“Yesterday Cafe”
JO1 Hendrick Simoes

Judge #1

Upbeat. I like the way you use ramps. But they started to compete with you at points. Good delivery, very conversational. Nice bit promo-ing evening news. But too long. Good amount of CI.
Radio news should not follow the promo of evening news; too much time in between music segments.
A lot of in-studio guests, adding credibility and showing nice show prep.
“I Love Rock & Roll” is over used. Keep it to one specific element.
Overall, good show!

Judge #2

- "hour #2, hour, hour"...nobody talks that way...
- mix is a little off with your show opening, the music is drowning you out
- nice ad-libbing in the reader for donations, but drop the "I guess"
- don't use a popular song for the weather donut...I want to hear the whole song
- ad-libbing is good...nice use of ramps...but, you need to do more pre-reading and practicing before speaking on the air, you have lots of slips
- who cares about the names of the reporters for the newscast?
- way too long on the news promo
- "23 minutes after the hour" what time is it? 3:23?
- I'm glad you had a guest on the show, but make sure you're prepared with his mic on...like the various elements avail., including the phone in...

Judge #3

- Finally someone knows how to use the music....nice ramps...Thank you.
- Good energy and conversational
- Promo/look ahead to the 10 minute newscast...the promo banter was almost as long as the newscast itself...give me the highlights and move on...
- Be more concise...the talking goes on and on and on...

Category B: Radio Spot Production

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“Taking Food from the Galley”
JO2 Peter Lawlor

Judge #1

Prison joke at GITMO just isn't funny

Judge #2

sensitivities-what's what the jail joke? Not exceptionally creative or original

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“MWR Tae Kwan Do Class”
JOSN Heather Whirley

Judge #1
No comments

Judge #2
-sensitivities...bad accents...could be offensive to some members of audience

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“Reflective Belts”
JO1 Christopher Conklin

Judge #1
Locker room sound effect just disappears. Why is there a girl in the locker room tagging the spot?
Corny and didn't really appeal to me at all. Poor attempt at humor.

Judge #2
-audio levels are all over the place
-spot isn't funny

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“Smoking Cessation”
BMC Det GITMO

Judge #1
What happened...nobody picked a door! What did they win, Jim? Approach was OK, but never hit the mark. I feel no reason to go to the classes...you missed the purpose of the spot. Have someone win.

Judge #2
-what happened to the game?
-good concept, but it never reached conclusion...
-why is the first smoker a nerd?
-the game never ended...who won?

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“Morning Show Promo”
JO1 Peter Robertson

Judge #1
Good approach, but the show itself ruins the spot. Pete and Courtney ramble on too long about their topics. Should've used clips from different shows to vary it up and make it more entertaining....Pete and Courtney's bits are too long!

Judge #2

- nice idea to promo the show in this manner
- audio levels are different between announcers
- Courtney, swallow your spit
- Courtney is too close to the mic.

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Det Rota Spain

“OpSec”

JO2 Erick Holmes

Judge #1

No comments

Judge #2

No comments

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Det Rota Spain

“WIC”

JO1(SW) Scott Mishley

Judge #1

- Tank, Biff, Rocky??? Come on, lets be a little creative...it's a radio spot!
- Terrible acting.
- Just didn't hit the mark!
- Music and acting were awful.

Judge #2

- bad acting
- poor writing, "what does that have to apply to you?"
- that music is so dated
- punch line doesn't work

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Det Rota Spain

“Pizza Villa”

JO2 Dave Holmes

Judge #1

- I Love the promoting of violence.
- Mocking the Italians while in Spain?
- Good audio mixing and use of elements.

Judge #2

- spot is too long
- good editing
- nice choice of music
- somebody died...I hope the food is good at Pizza Villa!
- sensitivities-why do you have to make fun of the Italians?

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete
“Mouzaras Winners”
JO1 Jeremy Johnson

Judge #1
I like the approach.
A nice creative way to approach an important topic.

Judge #2
-announcer is rushed in delivery, can't understand the main message
-nice concept
-loose ending

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete
“Laundry Theft”
JO2 Erica Mater

Judge #1
Who washes their clothes and is completely naked? And how did he get to his room naked without being caught. Didn't make a lot of sense. Why the reading of articles? (134) Message was don't streak, not don't steal laundry. This was obviously not thought out, a rush job.

Judge #2
-why do we have a laugh track?
-bad acting by the cop
-too many elements
-was the message "don't be naked?"

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
“Auto Hobby Shop”
JO1 Alex Carfrae

Judge #1
Funny! Nice take off!!! But like the bud-lite commercials, it needed an intro... "Keflavik presents: Real women of Iceland" or something catchy. But nice job!

Judge #2
-very creative take on a concept that works
-love the singer!

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Immunizations”
JO3 Justin Webb

Judge #1
No comments

Judge #2
-editing is choppy
-terrible ending-action step or compelling ending?
-where did that second voice come from?
-good concept, but it just didn't work

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Lawn Shack”
JO3 Andrew Holloway

Judge #1
I like the idea of Lawn Shack. The singing was terrible, but made me laugh!

Judge #2
-terrible singing - please don't try out for American idol
-don't ask a yes or no question to start a spot

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Pack & Wrap”
JO Sarah Mellen

Judge #1
Fresh approach on a tired subject.

Judge #2
-loose ending
-Dennis the menace is too dated for the audience
-the package exploded, sfx are a little out there for a pack and wrap encounter

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Red Phone”
JOSN Mark Alvarez

Judge #1
Not funny, doesn't bring home the message, just sounds really childish.

Judge #2

- audio levels are uneven
- not overly creative or original
- not exceptional spot
- not funny

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Swearing”

JOSN Alex Noe

Judge #1

Now that's a spot! That's funny and really brings the point home.

Nice use of various elements and the Mayberry toon!

Very original and really had some effort put into the creativity aspect.

Judge #2

-very funny...

-local tie? The key to radio and television spots overseas is to tie into the local area...simple to do by referencing a local place.

Judge #3

-Laugh-out-Loud funny

-Hits target with message!

-Great job.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Nimitz Park”

JO3 Jason Zuidema

Judge #1

Wicka, wicka, wicka???

Sound effects ended, should've lasted the whole spot.

Judge #2

-loose editing

-wicca, wicca, wicca...what is that?

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Navy college”

JO3 Matthew Weil

Judge #1

Fencing doesn't work with the whole education thing.

Audio levels vary.

Call what number???

Judge #2

-audio levels are all over the place

-I don't get this

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Misawa, Japan
“Forrest Rides a Motorcycle”
JOSN Rene Miranda

Judge #1
had plenty of potential, but never made it. A poor attempt at humor.

Judge #2
-not the best impression I've ever heard
-how do I get a card, does the police officer have to escort me?

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Sigonella, Sicily
“Navy College Office”
JO3 Daniel Edgington

Judge #1
Good prep in finding the right lines from Hank Hill.
Good message. Don't know if it really hits the mark, but it is a good production. Could have been tighter in the editing

Judge #2
-creative concept
-audio doesn't really match hank hill's
-script isn't that great

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Diego Garcia
“Bike Helmets”
JOSA Pallotta

Judge #1
writing was weak and uncreative. Find ways to make it interesting.
The sound effect was very abrupt and sounded more like a car.

Judge #2
-why did you have to say, "o.k., here's the scene"?
-crash should be weaved in there...too abrupt

Judge #3
No comments

NMC Det Diego Garcia
“Sunscreen”
JO3 Harrington

Judge #1

The most natural conversation yet. What was that sound??? Skin boiling? I can't figure it out.
On a subject this important, a little more effort should've been put into it.

Judge #2

- local tie? All you had to do was mention a beach name in Diego...
- lisp with announcers is distracting
- what is that sfx before the skin falls off?
- over modulated
- swallow the spit in your mouth...that's distracting too

Judge #3

No comments

Category C: Radio News Report

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“Saint Barbara's Day”
JO2 Scott Torres

Judge #1

The major and the story were "NEAT"
Where did the birds come from during the interview? You should've interviewed him at the event. What was the purpose of the event...the soundbite didn't punch that home!

Judge #2

- lots of nice nat. sound and great editing
- not much writing...what is the command information here? Why do I care?
- the actuality doesn't say much

Judge #3

- It was neat....3 times....
- Tell me more about Saint Barbara...why is it an annual event?
- What is the celebration about?

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“CNO Visits GITMO”
JO2 Peter Lawlor

Judge #1

Poorly written. Admiral didn't have respect for them before?
Start with CNO soundbite after that lead.
Let the CNO say how he felt, don't say it for him!

Judge #2

- weird writing, "...achieved the experience..."
- work on more conversational delivery
- audio pops between actuality

Judge #3

"he talked with....."no nat sound pops

USS Harpers Ferry
“Bridge over the River Kwai Reunion”
JO2 Brian Biller

Judge #1

“He thanked the service”...poor transition. This was a great topic for a story and has real potential, a real person with a real story...you missed the mark! Should've been a feature with more time spent developing the characters.

Judge #2

- actuality too long
- no connecting writing between soundbites
- work on more conversational writing and delivery

Judge #3

No Comments

FSD Norfolk
“24 Hour Child Development Center”
JO2 Elizabeth Enockson

Judge #1

If the Navy thinks family is so important, why are there only two 24-hour daycare centers? Lead in misleads. And is too long. Well written and edited, but some nat sound of kids would've enhanced the story greatly

Judge #2

- writing is good
- delivery needs some work.
- ok story

Judge #3

No Comments

NMC HQ, NMCRN
“AHLTA”
JO2 Dana Clark

Judge #1

Poor lead sentence. Find a sailor and use him/her for the source of the story and how this new system will help them, then back it up with your SME soundbite.

Judge #2

- actuality is very stilted, how about reaction from navy personnel?
- writing is passive
- why can't you personalize that story, instead of using a portion of a speech from an official?

Judge #3

No Comments

NMC HQ, NMCRN
“Help Number”
JO1 Michael Wimbish

Judge #1

Thousands in the lead-in, but only hundreds in the first sentence?

Judge #2

-great emotional story...where is the personal story for a sailor displaced?

-if you can't talk to a sailor or family member, how about a call center employee?

Judge #3

No Comments

NMC Det Misawa, Japan
“Softball Hurricane Relief”
JOSN Rene Moraida

Judge #1

Lead with key element...like the money raised. Passive and poor writing.

Who cares about the organizer? Interview those competing.

Judge #2

-your interviewee is well spoken

-no personalization of this story whatsoever

-can you talk to a tourney player?

-any nat. sound?

Judge #3

No Comments

NMC Det Misawa, Japan
“Cope India Load Team”
JO2 Ian Lundy

Judge #1

Lead is weak. Writing is weak and passive. No allies as indicated in the lead. What is Cope India?

The package just doesn't make sense. Had to listen twice and read lead three times!

Judge #2

-lead makes no sense

-don't say "recently"...poor time reference

-passive writing

-why is your interviewee yelling?

-what is this story about? We had to listen to this twice, plus read your lead three times to understand your story.

Judge #3

who went where?

Is this story about who participated or who went to India...

Tell this through one person's experience...

"_____" stayed behind to help support the mission...."soundbite"

NMC HQ, NMCRN
“NAS Key West Recovers from Hurricane Wilma”
JO2(SW) Brooke Armato

Judge #1

Sound bite is weak. Why no soundbite from a displaced sailor? Aren't you reporting to and about the sailors? Why were only most accommodated?

Judge #2

- that interviewee didn't sound very concerned
- situation sounds bleak, "most were accommodated...housing was uninhabitable..."
- any possibility of personalizing this story with an actuality from an evacuee?

Judge #3

write more to your bites.....Brooks spokesman explains....
Tell the story through one person's/ one family's experience

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Pacific Showcase”
JO3 Justin Webb

Judge #1

Why are you telling me exactly what the actualities are telling me? Weak passive writing. Delivery needs inflection.

Judge #2

- "house" or "theme park"?
- actuality from band spokesperson is ineffective
- Writing needs work (don't tell me what people are going to tell me)

Judge #3

- you recount the event but don't tell me a story...this happened and then this...
- did you interview any band members? Do they enjoy performing...what do they get out of it?

Category E: Radio Sports Report

NMC De Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
“GITMO Army Navy Flag Football”
JO2 Peter Lawlor

Judge #1

Weak writing. What went wrong? How about the Army's game plan and execution? Couldn't hear the audio on the soundbite.

Judge #2

- too much noise in actuality
- weak writing
- need work in delivery...

Judge #3

- army marched up and down the field....
- Writing was very cliché
- Soundbite over modulated

Category F: Radio Newscast

NMC Det Mannheim, GE “AFN Evening Newswatch” JOC Aaron Strickland

Judge #1

Nice intro.

Good delivery, but pacing is too fast.

Editing is a little too tight going into soundbites, but fine coming out.

Good mix of stories.

Sounds like your lead-ins were straight from the AP wire or the feed itself.

Only one true local story. This needs to be a local or military newscast.

Judge #2

-this is a international newscast, can't you just pull the cast from CNN, or AP

-I only heard one AFN story on the embassy

-work on enunciation, which slips sometimes – reading too fast

-nice opening

Judge #3

-very rapid delivery...words run together and slurred

-any military / local news or just AP wire reports?

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba “GITMO Radio News” NMC Det GITMO

Judge #1

The reader after the tease is wrong. Editing is loose.

Not a lot of effort for a two minute report. It's only two minutes, and it sounds like you only put two minutes into preparing it.

Judge #2

-jump from intro to lead (glitch?)

-weird place for a reader (after tease)

-weak sports story

-late to read after sports story

-inflection off for Courtney...

Judge #3

-nice produced open, just not sure why you threw in a reader right after the open and teases?...should go straight to the news from tease.

-put MWR / community events at the end

-things to look forward to...etc..

NMC Det Rota, Spain “Rota Radio News” JO2 Erick Holmes

Judge #1

No inflection on delivery. Poor/weak writing. First story was too long and the first half of the soundbite was unnecessary. He can testify??? Is he on trial? But at least you used a junior troop.

Judge #2

- long actuality for first story
- is this entire mission about meeting new people?
- glad to hear from a junior Marines...
- any ending to your first story?
- one story and a reader? First story was way too long...
- should try for at least 3 elements in a 2 min cast

Judge #3

- shorter actualities...these were too long
- not enough news in the cast (1story & a reader?)
- no produced close

HQ, NMC

“Navy/Marine Corps Radio News”

NMC/NMCRN

Judge #1

Safely recovered? Come on...people survive. I realize it's a Navy term, but let's be conversational. The cast, overall was informative and well done. Good delivery and good use of actualities.

Judge #2

- first story seemed very political...can we hear from a working marine
- like the stuff from downrange
- Lockheed martin story really told me nothing
- nice delivery and open and close

Judge #3

- good pacing
- good elements
- nice cast

Category H: TV Information Program

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland

“On The Rocks”

JO2 James Shults

Judge #1

- Beautiful shots, would have liked you to show me how difficult it can be to climb up. There were two of you, so why not have one film the other making the challenging climb?
- You show the senior airman ONCE. If he's going to co-host, have both on camera at start of show. Otherwise it's strange to see him once and not anywhere else.
- You've got a good on-screen presence. If I were stationed there, that piece would make me interested in checking it out. Good job.

Judge #2

- Please introduce your co-host in some fashion before we see him, and more importantly before we hear him.
- Where was the map? Good information about how long the drive is, but we need some visual reference, as well.

Judge #3

- Glad to see you doing something different ...good show concept.
- Your 2nd host just appears from nowhereopen with both of you....
- Look for more creative shooting.....

NMC HQ

“Looking Back”

Paul Lannon

Judge #1

- Phenomenal production. Great editing, great shot selection.
- Who shot the video?
- Can't give any points for voice or camera presence since you're not in the piece.

Judge #2

- This was very well edited...I loved the usage and manipulation of the still photos.
- Music in the last 3rd was a bit odd.
- ADM Clark is clearly a great interview.

Judge #3

- Powerful piece....moving and inspiring.
- Well produced and edited

NMC HQ

“Happy Holidays - 2005 U.S. Navy Band Holiday Concert”

Bill McDonnell

Judge #1

- Why would you cut to footage of musicians not playing???? Why so many zooms, & why cut in the middle of a zoom?

Judge #2

- The editing in this special was suspect...some of the cut-aways did not seem to match the audio we were hearing.
- A few audience cut-aways would have been nice.

Judge #3

- Not impressive production...
- Odd cut-aways, no audience until very end

NMC HQ

“The Blood & Sands of Iwo Jima”

Duane R. Jones

Judge #1

- If you had given us some sense of context for the veterans, you might have brought me into your story, but I felt no connection to it at all. Introduce us to the piece more clearly.
- Not feeling any flow of soundbites. Too much talking. Can't separate the voices.
- Good footage selection from WWII.
- Your best stuff is at the end, at the reunion. If you'd opened with this, I might have cared more about the story, but normally I would have changed the channel within the first five minutes. It feels like at least two completely separate stories.
- If this was supposed to be a comparison of Iwo Jima & Iraq, that should have been the introduction. You lost me.

Judge #2

- What a compelling and interesting subject....unfortunately, there was no real focus or flow in the interviews.
- What is the point of the piece?
- I am so disappointed with the total lack of focus, direction and flow.
- This should have focused on the veterans and their stories about their time on Iwo.
- Awesome subject and footage that was totally wasted by poor structure and focus.

Judge #3

- Great powerful footage and subject lost with poor editing choices.....weak intro....
- Difficult to follow.....does not seem to be in the right sequence...
- Odd edit choices....does not seem to follow a central thought or theme...all over the place.

Combat Camera Group Pacific

“RSO & I 2005”

JO1 Luke Perry

Judge #1

- Intro too long, & then totally threw me for a loop with the graphics. Very misleading intro...
- ENOUGH WITH THE SOUND EFFECTS!!!! Very distracting. You don't need to emphasize your editing ability with the sounds. I can see you can edit, I don't need to hear it too.
- After watching piece, I'm still not sure what the point was. Very little information in this “TV Information Program.”

Judge #2

- Lots and lots of effects with very little pay-off.
- Half-way through the piece, I still didn't know what it's about.
- You clearly shot a lot of video, but that didn't translate in to good story-telling.
- A voice-over at the beginning does not cover all the bases about what the exercise was all about.

Judge #3

- Very well shot and edited....however....
- Not a script, central thought or writer to be found!
- First, we are tricked into thinking it's a documentary....I'm still not exactly sure what it's about....
- Intro way too long...overused sound effects, music, etc....

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Volcano Explorers”

JO2 Beau Smith

Judge #1

- Great intro. Great narration. Strong stand-ups. Good info for your audience, good music. I would have been VERY interested to go on this tour if I'd seen this. Phenomenal piece. Very impressive.

Judge #2

- Very, very nice piece.
- The pacing of the show was great, and I loved the fact that you explored so many aspects of what someone can see and do regarding the volcanoes in that area.

Judge #3

- Excellent program....well done!
- Good writing and production values....good stand ups.

USS John F. Kennedy
“Celebrating Diversity”
JO2 Timothy Cox

Judge #1

- The Third Class is boring. No inflection in her voice, no passion to match the script. The script is far too dramatic for her presentation style.
- No video at all???? Nice cuts on her, but watching one person talk at me for six & a half minutes isn't going to keep my attention.

Judge #2

- Where oh where is your video support?
- This looked like a radio piece that happened to be on TV.
- Open was nice, but didn't really seem to go well with the subject matter.
- Your script wasn't bad, nor was the reader (talent)...but video support would have helped tremendously.

Judge #3

- Great idea somewhat lost with the lock down on the talent with a flat read.
- Good writing and intro...creative editing, but the straight read can't hold attention.
- Find other ways to make your point visually than the dry, straight read.

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete
“The Birth of a Station”
JO1 Phil Hasenkamp

Judge #1

- Very self-congratulatory. Why not focus on what a benefit this is to the base, to the service members & their families.
- I want to hear the DJs, and I want to hear the response from your customers.

Judge #2

- This could have been a great production, but sadly it was not.
- We should have opened with nat sound of the radio....like actually coming from a radio.
- We also should have had more shots (& sound) with the DJs working on their shows...
- Also, some sound bites from the people LISTENING to the radio would have been nice.

Judge #3

- Why is this interesting to anyone other than the people who work at the station.
- Too much shameless-self promotion....how about some man-on-the-street interviews about how this station has changed their lives?
- Well produced, but useless to your audience.

Category I: TV Spot Production

NMC Det Rota, Spain
“Rota news Team”
JO3 Nathan Schaeffer

Judge #1

- Pacing was slow, audio was all over the place, used footage from stories with lower 3rds in it, some hot video
- One question....who cares?

Judge #2

- Use the graphics resources at your disposal...if you are on Channel 2, let the audience know that.
- Make sure that your video matches your script.
- Use the best video you have....shot of ship could have been nice, IF it had been on a tri-pod.
- Sell Rota....don't just slap video together.

Judge #3

- Audio issues...editing issues....
- Basic concept....informs but standard....show me more of the flavor of where you are and why you are a resource...
- Could have been a :30

NMC Det Sigonella, Sicily

"DUP"

JO3 Daniel Edgington

Judge #1

- You did not effectively set up the surprise. Not once did I see the father drink. The dead child was over the top. Barely heard the guy say, "I'm the designated driver"

Judge #2

- Interesting concept...could have been much better with subtle set-ups.
- Needed to see the designated driver referenced...as in a face shot of him with his friends. Very mixed message with the DD encouraging his friend to drink more.
- Should have seen the husband/father drinking....not just the carafe full...then empty.
- Shameless manipulation of small child.

Judge #3

Good concept, but didn't work for several reasons:

- Audio issues...didn't catch the audio of the "DD"
- Didn't establish that the Father was drinking.....the empty bottle was only notice on the 2nd viewing...
- A bit much with the dead child.....
- Over the top

Navy Reserve Visual Information Support Center

"Nick"

W.B. Church

Judge #1

What was that about? I saw it twice and I have no idea what you were trying to say.

Judge #2

- What was this piece about? We know the young sailor died, but how?
- The mother was compelling but her bites could have been edited...
- If this was about drunk driving, let the audience know that.
- Logo off the top was not effective.

Judge #3

- Were is the call to action? I'm not sure what I am suppose to do.....was it drinking? Just an accident?
- Confusing spot.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

"BEQ Laundry Police"

JO2 Joshua Glassburn

Judge #1

- Fun, too the point, but the lighting could have been better. Your actor was great, but your security people were unarmed...what's up with that?

Judge #2

-Very clever piece....good use of music, edits and graphics...
-Definitely information that your audience needs.

Judge #3

-Clever idea.
-Video looked dark.

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete
"107.3 The Odyssey Promotion"
JO1 Phil Hasencamp

Judge #1

- The graphic logo should have grown or done something. The concept was great but you could have done more with it....maybe a crowd of people are already there and that plays a part in why you're crossing the street.

Judge #2

-nice idea...but please take out the hip- gyrations, as children may be watching
-Graphics really could have popped on this, but instead they were just there.

Judge #3

-Nice idea...could have been a bit more creative with the editing after you found the station.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
"Buckle Song"
JO2 James Shults

Judge #1

- Too long, the trick to being funny is to know when the joke is over.

Judge #2

-Please stop singing these songs, or at the very least please use video to match up with the lyrics to show the consequences of actions.

Judge #3

-Gone too far with this concept.
-Enough.

NMC HQ
"Combined Federal Campaign"
PH2(AW) Michelle Dunn

Judge #1

- Started out editing video to audio and then half way through there was nothing but wallpaper video. Didn't sell me on the need to participate. Audio mix could have been better.

Judge #2

-This piece played it very safe...you matched video to script at the start, then about half-way through it stopped altogether.
-Music was good....but the piece was not very compelling.

Judge #3

-Should have shot additional footage to match script up to video better...too much borrowed footage trying to make it work.

-Didn't "sell" me. The message was lost

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

"Casablanca"

JO2 Beau Smith

Judge #1

- I thought you could have used some narration to sell some of the graphics, and if you're going to use such a great movie as a back drop use some of those great lines or even a Bogart impression.

Judge #2

-This had so much potential...could have used sound-bites from the movie to tell the info/sell the idea, too.

Judge #3

-Nice idea...should have used a v/o to help "sell" the point

-Good editing, graphics

-Nice job.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

"EDIS"

JO3 Melanie Lemus

Judge #1

- This was simple, too simple. Graphics were basic, only two sequences (two-shot sequences at that) and your graphics asked questions while the narration was already beginning to answer them

Judge #2

-This piece did not convince me that I could get help from EDIS, nor did you explain what EDIS stands for.

Judge #3

-Lost me on the sales pitch.....confused with v/o not matching the text and a weak v/o.

-Cute kids not quite enough

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

"MWR Golf"

JO3 Andrew Holloway

Judge #1

- If I saw this without the sound, I would think that there is a large video game some were on post where I could play golf. NOT that I could play golf for real.

Judge #2

-This spot had a big "who cares" factor for me...the subject was not compelling, nor was the presentation.

-I did NOT like the FMI at the end....

Judge #3

-Good concept....not terribly interesting or of value.

-Well done.....lost the sales pitch....what am I suppose to do?

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
"AFN Nightly News
JO3 Jason Zuidema

Judge #1

- A rip off, but very fun. Technically sound, good work.

Judge #2

-This was fun...well edited.

Judge #3

- Nice! Love "Anchorman"

-Fun spot

NMC Det Misawa, Japan
"Blood Alcohol Content"
JOSN Douglas Greenwood

Judge #1

- Nobody is looking at the beer glass, or more importantly, listening to you message when the girl with the boobs is at the table. Not professional, not effective.

Judge #2

-NO ONE was looking at the beer glass, or even listening to the narrator, while the female was at the table. Very poor choice of wardrobe.

-Important message, but I'm not sure the graphics drove the point home well enough.

Judge #3

-Poor choice with framing shots.....no one is looking at the beer glass!

-Missed the message...

NMC Det Diego Garcia
"Cigarette Butts"
NMC Det Diego Garcia

Judge #1

- Editing was loose.

- In the Odd Couple, the fat guy was the slob...this doesn't work.

Judge #2

-If you are going to go with the Odd Couple theme, make the heavy set guy the smoker.

-Nice setting on the beach.

Judge #3

-Great idea....missed some shots and edits to really make it sell.....took me a minute to catch up and "get it"

-Focus issues....several shots out of focus....but fun , overall.

Category J: TV News Report

NMC Det Rota, Spain

“Rota VIPs Visit Theodore Roosevelt”

JO3 Nathan Schaeffer

Judge #1

- Don't use a soundbite from the CO just because you interviewed the CO.
- In & of itself, I can see why this story is of interest to your audience. Your base employees & leaders should have that exposure to the operational Navy, but it could be more exciting visually.
- I'd like to see some sequences.

Judge #2

- Good use of nat sound, and your script did a good job explaining the importance of having DVs on board US ships.
- However, this is a run of the mill story...one that could be done several times per month, no doubt.
- What was different about this particular group of people and their trip?
- You have a lot of potential...keep at it.

Judge #3

- What is unique about this story? Guest come aboard all the time.
- I would have used a shot to intro the visitors without their deck gear on.....

NMC Det Rota, Spain

“Sailors Realize American Dream”

JO2 Keith Smith

Judge #1

- Your interview was good, you got good stuff from her.
- Keep extra journalists out of your shot.

Judge #2

- I really liked the topic of this story...your subject was very compelling and a great interview.
- I maybe would have covered the Ambassador's interview with a little video.
- I also would have started the package with a wide shot scene setter of the ship....nat sound then cut to inside.

Judge #3

- Nice story ...nice work

NMC Det Sigonella, Sicily

“Flood”

JO3 James Bournes

Judge #1

- Avoid dogs pooping in the background of your interviews.
- Tripod, tripod, tripod. White balance.
- Plenty of opportunity here to tell a stronger story, but it seems like you took the path of least resistance.

Judge #2

- Please use a tri-pod...please focus and white balance.
- Your sound bites could have been much shorter...just let them make their point.
- The end of your second sound bite became emotional....that was good. You should have looked for more emotion. That's what this story was all about...how people were affected and how they are dealing with the flooding.

Judge #3

- Standard stuff.....look for a more personal slant.
- You had opportunities here with the interviews.....seems like you took the fast way to completion.
- Interview with Sailor is blue

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Elementary Concert”

JO3 Melanie Lemus

Judge #1

- Let the nat sounds pop! I want to hear the kids singing those great Disney songs! An entire story about kids singing, and not a single kid singing.
- Shot of blonde girl singing solo not working because it's from behind her...we want to see faces not the back of someone's head.
- Really liked your opening line. You could have made this story stand out. Plenty of opportunity for lots of cute moments, but you didn't take advantage of them.
- When you're shooting kids doing something, especially singing, I want to see them sing, I want to hear them sing.

Judge #2

- So much potential lost on your poor shooting and editing choices....
- We never really got to hear the kids singing, much less the solo singers.
- Your set-up wasn't bad...in fact, the story started out well, then lost focus.

Judge #3

- Great opportunity lostnever actually hear the music, very limited nat sound.
- Cute topic with numerous options missed.....this was the boiler plate take on the story.....not bad, but not great.

AFN Vicenza, Italy

“CJTF-76 aids Pakistan”

JO1(SW) Mikel Bookwalter

Judge #1

- Where are the people? Where's the action? Where's the devastation? You may not have had access to that footage when you did the story, but you could have showed the troops preparing. All you gave me was shots of helos in the air.
- Good stand-up, good voice, but your pictures didn't match your script at all.

Judge #2

- There really should have been more video (and presented earlier) of the actual devastation.
- Where was the aid?

Judge #3

- Hard news opportunity left short with no footage of aid.

FSD Pearl Harbor

“Chaffee Maiden Deployment”

JO3 Charise Cunningham

Judge #1

- Where is your nat sound????? The ship is FULL of fabulous nat sound, and you left every bit of it out!
- Sounded like you had a cold... nat sound would have covered some of that.
- Your script was definitely missing objectivity. Quite a bit of opinion in there, and it's not your place to say those things. Let your interviews say how great the crew is.

-Nice to see a different take on a ship's first deployment.

Judge #2

-Where is your nat sound....there was NONE.

-Use of a tri-pod was inconsistent....

-Be careful about setting your shots up to be back lit...due to that, the interview with the Captain was poor.

-Tell me more about the ship???

-Open with a scene setter and some nat sound...your story will flow better, too.

Judge #3

-Where is the Nat sound?!? None!!!!

-Some good writing, but boiler plate story without much interest.

-Work on your delivery skills...pausing in the wrong places...

HQ, NMC

“Navy NASCAR”

PH1(AW) Eric D. Schwab

Judge #1

-No nat sound for NASCAR??? Are you kidding??? You couldn't have pulled some file footage out of somewhere?

-Dale Earnhardt Jr., while he is the most popular NASCAR driver, is not the driver of the Navy car, and you didn't even interview the driver?! You had several enlisted Sailors present, and the only person you interviewed was the flag.

-This could have been a GREAT story. This was lazy

Judge #2

-There was ZERO nat sound in this piece....

-Where were the fans? Where was the video of the Navy car going around a track?

-It looks like you did NOTHING more than go to a press conference.

-NASCAR is one of the most exciting and fan friendly sports out there...sadly, none of this came through in your story

Judge #3

-Needs more b-roll....file footage of Navy car...navy logos on shirts.....action.....seems like you didn't dig too deep for this.

-Not very original ...no nat sound...not exciting.....

FSD Norfolk

“Katrina Helos Arrive”

JO1 Donald Rule

Judge #1

-Using same shots multiple times??? Poor job of matching b-roll with soundbites. Story could practically write itself if you'd put some effort into it.

Judge #2

-This story was dreadful.

-You did not use nat sound effectively, nor did you cover your interviews with the plethora of great video that was coming out of New Orleans and Pensacola.

-You actually used the same shot twice before we even saw any hurricane destruction.

-Some of the best pictures the Navy ever produced and shot were totally wasted.

Judge #3

-Not good direction with this story....bad choices in editing interviews....

-Seems like the least effort on this....

FSD Norfolk
“Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launch”
JO2 Elizabeth Enockson

Judge #1

- Too much passive writing in your script.
- Pretty high tech story, and you used some footage, but it took you way too long to show the launching of the UAV.
- Didn't grab or hold my attention.

Judge #2

- Did they ever launch the UAV? You should have used that video at the start...
- Your audio was very poor and your sound bites were far too long.

Judge #3

- Nothing of great interest here...standard writing, editing...boiler plate

USS Carl Vinson
“PACE”
JO2(SW/AW) Chris Fahey

Judge #1

- I would have considered entering a story that had more visuals. This is important info, but definitely lends itself as more of a print article.

Judge #2

- You should have interviewed some sailors who are in, or have gone through, the program.
- I realize this story was challenging to shoot, but at the very least you need to use scene setters and sequencing to tell your story.

Judge #3

- This seems average...good topic, but you do not show the benefits to the audience.
- Not a bad effort...but not outstanding.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Star Wars Visit”
JOSN Mark Alvarez

Judge #1

- Just because you did the story doesn't mean you have to submit it to a competition.
- There was nothing original or exceptional about that story at all.
- Didn't get my attention or hold it

Judge #2

- Sadly, this does not impress me...talk to the kids, talk to the parents.
- If you are going to mention the fact that one of the actors did other movies....then you must reference the names of the movies.
- Use clips from the movie to help tell your story.
- This pkg. was not exceptional.

Judge #3

- Average at best.....you had an exciting topic with lots of material to support for b-roll.....you missed out big time.
- Not interesting at all.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Minimart Destruction”
JO3 Andrew Holloway

Judge #1

- Sasebo is finally getting a new Exchange??? Really???? That should have started your story!
- you should have used nat sound in between your script to let it pop in.
- Can you get closer?

Judge #2

- This story screamed for nat sound and sound bites from people who want to see the new one.
- This story was far too long...
- Why didn't you show any video of the new location...?
- Too many issues to list in detail.

Judge #3

- Average at best.....the real story was the new NEX...the teardown is a sidebar to this.
- Not a strong enough entry for an awards board.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Harpers Ferry LARC Drill”
JO3 Jason Zuidema

Judge #1

- Good opener, got my attention. Interesting information.
- Good story.
- End of your script was weak.
- Plenty of opportunity to really get into the story, give me more close-ups...sequences
- You have LOTS of potential.

Judge #2

- This story started out so well...then sort of went downhill.
- If they were practicing the drill over and over again, there should have been some sequencing in there.
- Your nat sound was good.

Judge #3

- Solid....writing got sloppy as story went on, but overall, a solid effort.

Combat Camera Fleet Pacific
“Navy Relief Effort in Pakistan”
PH2 Gregory E. Badger

Judge #1

- Keep your soundbites down to pertinent info. You show some great b-roll over your soundbites, and I'd like to hear some of the nat sound.
- The golden rule...paraphrase if you can say it better yourself. The first soundbite was just way too long, and it didn't say anything relevant. Here you're showing me these heartbreaking images, but the helo guy is talking about circling the airstrip?
- That video was very touching, and I would have liked to hear more about the human interaction. Especially the shot of the baby... you could have made your audience cry with this.

Judge #2

- Your video was absolutely incredible....
- Lose the sound bite with the air crew chief...we need to hear more emotion from the military folks involved.
- Great job getting sound from the Pakistan LTCOL...
- There was no nat sound in some sections...why?

Judge #3

- Great shooting....some of this footage is gold!
- Missed some great opportunities in script....which now makes the story average instead of great.

USS John F. Kennedy
“JFK Visits Boston”
JO2 Timothy Cox

Judge #1

- I want to hear from the citizens about how cool it is.
- I want you to focus on either the Sailors/Marines out in town, or the citizens on the ship. One or the other.
- The Marine colonel quote was colorful. The CO quote was pretty much irrelevant.
- Are you sliding to the right in your stand-up?

Judge #2

- This story made me angry.
- Why in the world would you open and close your story with a stand-up?
- No pics of the ship or President.
- Where were the crowds who allegedly welcomed the ship with open arms?
- There was no shot of the ship actually coming in to port...WHY?

Judge #3

- Solid story.....missing some key shots....ship into port, JFK photo more of Boston and their open arms.
- Not bad.

Combat Camera Fleet Pacific
“HS-8 Appears on '24'”
JO2 Brett Cote

Judge #1

Great to see the video matching the script, but the narrator sounded bored, and the footage itself was just, well, boring.

Judge #2

- Have some fun with this....this story was so boring.
- I liked that you matched the video with the script.

Judge #3

Solid....not outstanding...

Combat Camera Fleet Pacific
“Operation Safe Crossing”
PH2 Summer Anderson

Judge #1

- Great story concept. It looked like you tried to use nat sound, but it didn't quite work out the way you planned. Inconsistent lighting... I know it's nighttime, but MA3 looks well lit, and MACS is grainy.
- You need to sound like you care about these stories when you're narrating.

Judge #2

- Audio levels were all over the place.
- Good message, I liked the flow of your interviews...but the story lost much of its effectiveness due to the bad audio and the poor video.
- Your diction in your audio track also lessens the impact of the story.

Judge #3

- Solid work....not really "sold" on it...but the message got through.

COMUSNCENT PAO

“Guarding the Oil Platform”

JO2 Abraham Essenmacker

Judge #1

- For such a serious story, you sound awfully chipper. Give it the gravity it deserves.
- Nat sound?

Judge #2

- Please use a scene setter...
- There was no pad at all off the top of your piece.
- Your audio was all over the place.
- What was the point of this story?

Judge #3

- Average

Naval Service Training Command, Navy Region Midwest

“OIF Veterans and Hospital Corpsmen Training”

JO2 Elijah Leinaar

Judge #1

- Very, very impressed. Good close-ups, looks like you really got into the story. Important information.

Judge #2

- I loved this story....you did a great job getting in there and showing the action.
- Your close-ups were effective.
- You may want to shorten the sound bites a bit.

Judge #3

- Great effort...good shooting and editing.
- Nice work.
- Keep looking for the creative way to tell the story.

Category K: TV Feature Report

FSD San Diego

“USS John C. Stennis New Homeport”

Geoffrey Patrick

Judge #1

- Not compelling, poor selection of shots, no sequencing, nat sound competed, poor inflection on delivery

Judge #2

- This story was poorly titled...it should have been about the transit and how important the METOC guys are on every transit.

-There was no emotion in the audio track. If narrator is bored, so is the audience.

Judge #3

- This is a non-story...there was almost a storm...but then there wasn't....
- Some nice videography.....
- Should have taken a new direction.....
- Work on improving your voice over skills.....kind of dry.

NMC Det Rota, Spain

“Sailors Celebrate Carnival in Spain”

JO2 Keith Smith

Judge #1

- Going from night to day doesn't work
- Interview with girl in office doesn't work...if she couldn't be there then don't put her in the story
- opening shot didn't fit script
- story is too long.

Judge #2

- This could have been much shorter...great nat sound and shots...fun story
- Take the LT out, and let the locals tell us what the carnival is all about

Judge #3

Nice overview....stand ups are a bit over the top.....but fun story

NMC Det Rota, Spain

“Sailor Attend Bull Running”

JO2 Erick Holmes

Judge #1

- no sequencing,
- no bulls actually running,
- interviews look like they were done at another location
- visual effect at end of piece not effective

Judge #2

- Why were the interviews done away from the action? Why didn't we see the 3 sailors at the location of the bulls?
- Needed to see more action of the bulls running.
- Don't bring in the music and effects at the end...if you do, you need to set that element up earlier in the piece.

Judge #3

- Not very well defined....what am I to gain from this?
- Over the top edit/music montage at the end.....
- Story feels like you are lost ...looking for a focus statement....

NMC Det Yokota, Japan

“Japanese Fire Prevention Week Kick-Off”

JO3(SW) Talley Reeve

Judge #1

- Lots of wide and medium shots...no close-ups.
- Some nat sound competed.
- Some hot video.
- No sequences.

-Message was unclear.

Judge #2

-Use graphics to drive home the point of 119 vice 9-11

-The focus of the story seemed to change from fire prevention to 'look at how these two fire departments work together'

-A little on the long side...

-Try to incorporate sequences in your shooting, and use close-ups.

Judge #3

-Standard, boiler plate stuff...

-Good video and I learned something....but not terribly interesting...

-Confused focus statement....119 or fire prevention ? Also, opening was a bit confused.....

NMC Souda Bay, Crete

“Souda Burger”

JO3 Bobby Northnagle

Judge #1

-You talk about a lot of people coming to the DFAC but I think I only counted about 10 people.

-Please use lights.

-Lots of opportunity for nat sound, yet you didn't take advantage of them.

Judge #2

-This story was not compelling.

-If there really are 150 people who come through in the first 30 minutes...show me the line! Give me some sound bites from the people waiting...

-This story should have been about the people who wait in line, and why...lose the interview with the supply officer.

Judge #3

-Not enough b-roll....how about some exteriors? I didn't know where we were suppose to be.....opening hanging on some big boy that I don't know....show me the burger!

-Stand up didn't work...thought you were closing...

-Supply Officer interview didn't work....

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete

“Jail & Bail Navy Ball Fundraiser”

JO2(SW/AW) Dale Eng

Judge #1

-Error in continuity

-opening shot was not a great one (very important)

-Lights?

Judge #2

-Sound bite with flight surgeon should have come later...the video of her being arrested came in the later third of the story, but her funny sound bite came up front.

-Funny story that clearly told the audience the benefit of the event.

Judge #3

-Liked it...fun and clever writing.

-Some lighting problems...opening shot didn't work....blue shirt didn't match the audio....

-Good times.

AFN Vicenza

“Auto Museum”

JO1(SW) Mikel Bookwalter

Judge #1

- Plaque footage poor choice
- zoom out was shaky
- nice choice of music but it competed in a few spots
- slurred some words
- be aware of hand movements and posture in stand-ups

Judge #2

- This piece was a bit long...and should have explained up front that there were only British cars in the museum. For goodness sakes, you are in Italy, one would expect to see a Fiat or Ferrari in there.
- Please let us know what the hours are, and contact info for the museum.
- I liked the music...you edited well to it.
- Lots of stand-ups

Judge #3

- OK story....but why?
- Last stand up was not blocked right....
- Good editing, use of music....
- The story could have been shorter.

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete

“COMREL”

JO1 Todd Macdonald

Judge #1

- Audio was not consistent throughout
- Make sure your subject or commitment is clearly stated
- Delivery was poor
- Poor selection of soundbites.

Judge #2

- There didn't seem to be much focus in your script or narration.
- Please set up the package with a scene setter of the church...
- Audio levels were all over the place, lighting was non-existent.
- You had 2 good soundbites in a row from sailors...how about hearing from the people who live in the community.
- Please lose the interview with the PAO.

Judge #3

- Audio levels were really bad...lighting bad.....not enough b-roll.
- What is the focus statement? You had a few good sound bites, but you led with them talking about paint and annoying scraping sounds....
- Needs work.....delivery was soft

NMC HQ

“Faces of the Fallen”

JO1 Liz Murray

Judge #1

- Story felt long, could tighten up script...but well written & edited
- Could have used additional sound...like sound of helicopters when you show ch47 or guns when you show pic of funeral.

Judge #2

I loved this story, your editing was great, as was your selection of sound bites.

Judge #3

- Powerful, excellent work.
- Strong editing, writing
- Strong, emotional delivery

USS Ronald Reagan Public Affairs

“Plane Guard”

PH2 Christopher Brown

Judge #1

- cool music doesn't make a cool story. If you can't show people doing their job then write a print story, TV needs visuals...an interview doesn't count.
- Don't start a TV story with a stand up...compelling visuals will draw your viewer into your story, a stand-up won't.
- Interview shots were soft.

Judge #2

- Why did you open this feature story with a stand-up? Features should NEVER need a stand-up. Feature stories should be interesting enough to tell themselves with no need for a stand-up.
- Put video over the interviews....we should see what these people are doing while they are describing what they do.
- Open with a scene setter with good nat sound...then go to an interview

Judge #3

- You opened a feature story with a stand up? Strange choice.
- Show your interview subjects doing their jobs....you don't have enough b-roll!
- Strange, music video more than reporting.....not the best direction this story could have gone.

FSD Pearl Harbor

“Kauai Rescue Swimmers”

JO1 Keith Jones

Judge #1

- Just a bunch of interviews, not really a story.
- Video levels were off (water shots very hot)
- If you're going to do something "in their own words" then don't do a stand up.

Judge #2

- The audio and lighting "quality" in this story was dreadful.
- Good job getting those involved to give you interviews...should have used them as stand alones. No need for you to do 'stand-ups' in your story...they were gimmicky and out of place.

Judge #3

- This didn't work....choosing to string together a bunch of interviews to tell the story was not effective.
- Lacked substance....a good story was lost by the direction you took.
- Bad audio, bad video, bad lighting
- stand ups with no purpose....
- way too long

FSD Norfolk

“Expeditionary Strike Group”

JO1 Erick Hoffman

Judge #1

- How about some stock footage of some of these weapon systems in action? How about some nat sound? -
If you don't have video to illustrate your script then you can't do a TV story....write something for print.

Judge #2

-This story was not set up well...I still don't understand what this story was about or what you were trying to tell us.

-The video inside the ship was very poor quality and your audio levels were all over the place.

Judge #3

-What was this story about?

-Is it news or feature?

-Not enough b-roll to illustrate the story properly.

-Interesting topic lost in sub-par writing.

NMC HQ

“Indianapolis Remembered”

PH1 Eric Schwab

Judge #1

- I find it hard to believe that you couldn't find more stock footage to support this very important story. Still photographs need to move a little...use a push or something

-you could have engineered some sound behind the photos

Judge #2

-This story had so much potential...very little of which was exploited.

-A map or time line would have been good...in addition to creative use of file photographs or stock footage.

-I loved the interviews with the survivors...but the really compelling part of this piece of history was the fact that so many of the sailors were attacked and eaten by sharks...and that the Navy never realized the ship had gone missing....surely there was good sound on that.

Judge #3

-Should have employed some documentary style editing for this feature history piece...push in and pull out on old photos when it's all you have! Aka Ken Burns / PBS

-Should have found additional stock footage , photos, to tell the story..

-Seems like a rush job.....

7th Fleet Public Affairs

“Paint”

JO2 Patrick Dille

Not able to view this entry because DVD wouldn't play

FSD Norfolk

“USS Cole Bombing 5th Anniversary”

JO1 Donald Rule

Judge #1

- Bad video levels, white balance issues, audio issues,

- Poor choice of soundbites, and most of all – un-compelling video.

- Should have found some stock footage or some pictures.

Judge #2

-The video and audio levels were dreadful.

-There was no use of archival footage of the actual incident in this package. Why????

- This story would have been better with out a stand-up. Stand-ups should only be used when they are NEEDED to bridge in a story.
- Turn off the boom-mike in high wind....there was not usable nat-sound in this piece.
- So much potential was wasted...an emotional story ruined by poor writing, editing and shooting.

Judge #3

- This could have been a great story ...but it's lost in a sea of lazy shooting and editing as well as bad writing.
- Where are all the supporting archive materials for story and b-roll? We have this great thing called the internet for current event material.

FSD Norfolk

“Navy Ship Named After Airman”

JO3 Riza Wenthe

Judge #1

- Video levels were all over the place
- Audio & Video out of sync on one soundbite
- Poor editing choices, poor choice for opening shot
- not compelling story
- Should not use stand up for opening shot in a feature story.
- pitchy delivery

Judge #2

- This story was way too long.
- Do NOT need to hear the speeches.
- The audio was not synched up with the video.
- There were many technical problems with this story.

Judge #3

- This just does not work.....where to begin?
- This is a powerful story that is lost. Where is the ship at the top? Why is there a stand up at the top?
- Needs a complete re-tool.

FSD Norfolk

“24 Hour Child Development Center”

JO2(SW/AW) Elizabeth Enockson

Judge #1

- Technically this was a mess, the levels were off and the editing jumped around. However, you told a good story, the bites were well selected and helped sell the narration.

Judge #2

- This story clearly benefits the community.
- Nice open with the nat sound with the parent...it was a good scene setter for the story.
- A bit odd on the lighting jumping between the inside and outside.
- Very good job of letting the sound bites drive the story.

Judge #3

- You tell the story well with your interviews and writing.
- Some lighting issues.....but good overall .
- Learned something....hot topic for parents

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Historic Meeting”

JO2 Beau Smith

Judge #1

- You started out strong but then it went down hill after the interview with the Japanese sailor. What's with the historian's stand-up in your story? You don't have to intro him. Some of the writing at the end is trite.

Judge #2

-This story started out well...I liked the map and the photos.

-Why did you put the historian in the story? His soundbites were redundant and did not move the story forward.

-Where did the hospital go...and what went in it's place?

-Story was shot very plainly....there wasn't much that was compelling.

Judge #3

-This was good up to the introduction of the historian....after than we didn't learn anything new, just repeat info.

-Strong start. Good documentary style.

-Follow up research....what happened to the hospital?

NMC Sasebo, Japan

"NFL Liberty Trip

JOSN Darrin Russ

Judge #1

- Waited way too long to reveal the whole working the sidelines part of the story.

-Your delivery is too fast, take a breath every now and again.

-The story didn't flow well.

Judge #2

-Slow down....your delivery is way, way too fast.

-Needed to get rid of one of the interviews...and get to the part where the sailor got to work on the sidelines...that was a nice surprise.

-Good use of the video from the game...and the nat sound, but it seemed like there were 2 packages that were racked up back to back.

-Your reveal came too late.

Judge #3

-This was a good story.....all of the problem are with pacing....you RACE through the story without taking a breath! Slow down.....I missed a lot of the story.

-Some minor problems with editing, but overall a good effort.

NMC Sasebo, Japan

"Tia Thorp"

JO2 Felix Crosser

Judge #1

-The message at the end comes out of left field.

-This story is not compelling - poor story telling.

Judge #2

-A little more set-up about Thorp would have been nice, we don't know enough about her.

-Good use of nat-sound...

Judge #3

No comments

NMC Sasebo, Japan

“JO2 Biller”

JO3 Jason Zuidema

Judge #1

- Too long, didn't illustrate with video, no sequences, video levels were spotty

Judge #2

-This was a nice piece, but what was the point?

-It was edited and shot well, but there are thousands of new sailors every year...why focus on Biller?

-I learned nothing new about the Navy from this piece, or about how the Navy operates.

Judge #3

Average. Could have been shorter...started repeating at the end

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Mike Lehmann”

JO2 Joshua Glassburn

Judge #1

- Not a compelling story.

-Took too long to get to the guitar player.

-Poor edit choices, going from playing to interview is a jump cut.

Judge #2

-Good use of nat-sound....

-Not a very compelling story, though.

Judge #3

-Who cares? Not compelling.

-Good nat sound.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“New Navy Chief”

JOSN Rene Moraida

Judge #1

- Not compelling story. Some video was soft, some was hot, bites were poorly selected

Judge #2

-Audio was very bad...

-What was different about this sailor? What did his family have to say about it? Or those who worked with him?

-There was nothing compelling about this story.

Judge #3

-Not compelling, didn't grab or hold my attention

Category L: TV Sports Report

NMC Det Rota Spain

“NAVSTA Dodge ball Tournament”

JO2 Erick Holmes

Judge #1

- Interview subject had flies on his face!?

-Great Marine interview.

-Nice intro, good close-ups & fun editing.

Judge #2

-Loved the open...

-The interview with the Marine was awesome....

-Would have been nice to see the schools that will benefit?

Judge #3

-Fun story! Nice work.

NMC Det Rota, Spain
“DGF Football Lifts Off”
JO3 Nathan Schaeffer

Judge #1

-CUTAWAYS!!!! You're confusing your audience with direction when you could just use a crowd or cheerleader cutaway.

-Good job following the action.

Judge #2

-Good shooting and use of nat sound...this piece was far too long.

-Let's see some crowd shots...

Judge #3

-Standard stuff....good delivery.

-Where is the crowd and color?

-Story is stacked wrong...put some sound bites up top.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
“Flag Football”
JO2 Johnathan LeMons

Judge #1

- I see you using transitions, but cutaways might help.

-Great job following the ball.

-You have a good on-screen presence.

Judge #2

-Not too bad...you followed the action well and kept the story short.

-What was the definite beginning you referenced in your open?

Judge #3

-Nice work.....close to the real thing

NR Combat Camera Group Pacific
“Coronado Classic Speed Festival”
PH2 Paul Seeber

Judge #1

- Beginning was VERY strong, some great shooting.

-Script was weak.

-The trick with the little kid was a bit over the top, and unfortunately the guy who had the green flag wasn't a very good interview.

-Footage was great.

Judge #2

- The open was awesome...some very good shooting in there.
- The middle got a little bogged down....
- I think if you cut the sound bites down, it will move the story along a little quicker.

Judge #3

- Nice work...great shooting..
- Writing was a little weak.....story went a bit long....lost me at the end.

FSD Pearl Harbor

“SEAL Ironman”

JO1(SW/AW) Keith Jones

Judge #1

- Way too long. Should have kept the focus on him....what was with the photo shoot?
- Either let him tell me the story, or cut his soundbites down to the pertinent info.
- No need for graphic with the length of the events as you're saying it. I don't need to read it AND hear it at the same time.

Judge #2

- You do not have to follow a story in real time to get your point across....start with your best and dramatic stuff...then weave to that.
- The photo shoot story could have been taken out.

Judge #3

- Too long
- Not easy to follow...dark video
- Below average.

FSD Norfolk

“Rudy Run”

JO1 Erik Hoffmann

Judge #1

- Poor use of nat sound.
- Having Rudy start the run was a great idea, but the audio was horrible.
- Background music with Mr. Lucas was too loud

Judge #2

- What was the focus?
- Your audio levels were all over the place, as was your video

Judge #3

No comments given

FSD Norfolk

“Women's Basketball Tryouts”

JO2(SW/AW) Elizabeth Enockson

Judge #1

- Video was decent, hard to shoot in a gym.
- Why no soundbites from the ladies who were trying out?

Judge #2

- This was a bit confusing...where are the try-outs being held? In Norfolk or San Diego.

Judge #3

No comments given

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“Sasebo Sports Report”

JOSN Mark Alvarez

Judge #1

- Great use of the kids!!!!

-Perfect script with your video.

-Your audience loved that piece.

-Impressive.

Judge #2

- I loved this....you kept it light and fun.

-You wrote very well to your video....lots of fun.

Judge #3

-Great stuff....enjoyed this.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“SSR Hitmen vs. Hooligans”

JO2 Felix Crosser

Judge #1

-Great, great script!!!

-Wonderful delivery!

-Would like you to pick up your camera & move, give me some close-ups.

Judge #2

-This piece was a little too long, but very clever...

-Good pacing, but would have benefited from different angles.

Judge #3

-Great report....enjoyed it.

-Could have used another vantage point to shoot from.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan

“SSR Yokota Lady Panthers vs E.J. King Lady Cobras Basketball”

JO3 Justin Webb

Judge #1

- Shoot and move! Give me some cutaways. Give me something interesting.

Judge #2

- This was fun...but there didn't seem to be the drama.

-Good editing. I liked the dissolves

Judge #3

-Good, standard broadcast

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“SSR Total Force vs. Harpers Ferry Softball”
JO3 John Girdlestone

Judge #1

- Work on anticipating the movement of the ball... you lose it.
- You saw the guy about to slide into home, why not zoom in on the plate?
- MOVE YOUR CAMERA. Every shot was from the exact same angle.

Judge #2

- No movement what so ever from the camera....change angle...get in the stands, show me some emotion

Judge #3

- Try another location to shoot from....give us some options.

Category M: Local TV Newscast

NMC Det Souda Bay, Crete
“Souda Bay Newsline”

Judge #1

- Sound of pen clip in beginning of newscast.
- Your “look up, look down” thing looks forced...don't do that unless you really have to.
- Background for "Souda Notes" doesn't work. Graphics get lost in fake tree.
- Delivery was flat...you look bored with the cast

Judge #2

- Try to make the chyron with the exchange rates and flights a little more interesting. Use some moving video or better graphics, rather than a boring slate.
- Please make sure your OTS and script match the events you are describing. It was Hispanic Heritage Month, not Spanish Heritage Month.

Judge #3

- Good overview.....try some traditional and proven news tools like teases.
- Packages were too long...more content...better content....dig deeper.
- Good effort overall.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
“North Atlantic Report”

Judge #1

- The anchor did well but could use a little more energy, not louder just more energy.
- Looking to the side between elements? This doesn't work at all.
- Change you inflection as you would in a normal conversation.
- Sports audio was poor and the video was hot.
- Lower 3rds were not consistent.
- There are audio pops in stories, a 2 frame audio dissolve would take care of that.

Judge #2

- Nice flow in your newscast.
- Please check all audio before you go to air. Your audio was all over the place....very hot in some places, very low in other places....as was some of your video.

- There was no weather report in your show...I would think that would be something that at least some of your viewers would want to see.
- Lots of potential here.

Judge #3

- Good newscast.....
- Good volume of content, good anchor and sports talent.
- Most of the issues are from lighting / packages....

**USS Ronald Reagan
“Hellcat News”**

Judge #1

- You need to welcome you audience to the show and intro your hosts.
- The segments were put together well but it looks like you had a long time to do it.
- Need to work on graphics.

Judge #2

- The elements were shot very, very well.
- I liked the galley story...I'm sure it went over well with your audience.
- Good choice of sound bites in all of your pieces.
- I wish there had been an intro to your newscast

Judge #3

- Cold open by Anchor was strange...no show intro at all.
- Liked the format....but jump out of the box occasionally.
- Quality is good.... good shooting and editing.

Category O: Television Newsbreak

**NMC Det Rota, Spain
“Star Wars at Rota Drive In”
JO2(SW/AW) Kristine DeHoux**

Judge #1

- You should not put dissolves in soundbites. That shows poor shooting and lazy writing.
- Video levels spotty

Judge #2

- The sound bite with the MWR man was too long...you should have covered it with video...
- Good bites with the fans.
- Please use sequencing in your shots...this time elapse format would have been perfect for that.

Judge #3

- No Comments

**NMC Det Rota, Spain
“NMCB1 Hits the Beach”
JO2 Keith Smith**

Judge #1

- You wrote to video and shot interesting angles unfortunately your video could have been better. How about a shot of sand flowing off the track? Or Spanish people watching the workers or talking to one of the equipment operators?
- Good nat sound & writing

Judge #2

- Great use of nat sound...
- Nice story that shows how the Navy gives back to a community.
- The audio on the sound bites could have been cleaned up a little

Judge #3

- Good energy and delivery.
- Good volume of b-roll to use.
- Good writing and editing

NMC Det Rota, Spain
“Rota Marines Train at Sea”
JO3 Nathan Schaeffer

Judge #1

- Watch long unit names in your story, nobody is listening after the first three words...if you have to put them in, generalize “sailors aboard the USS...marines at Quantico Marine Base” .
- How about a close up of the training? All I saw were medium and wide shots
- Watch your levels.

Judge #2

- Need to work on how you track packages...your diction is a bit uneven and seems rushed.
- No need for your stand-up at the end...could have used some great video to end your story over the same audio.
- Great use of nat sound...and good use of video to cover sound-bites and to keep the story moving.

Judge #3

- Stand up at the end was rough...looked out of place and was not needed.
- Could have used a close up / additional b-roll of other nations flag patch on uniforms to illustrate this point of joint ops.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
“Road Rally”
PHAN Drew Williams

Judge #1

- Open did not have nat sound,
- Stand up unmotivated
- Took too long to get to rally footage

Judge #2

- Please show video of the rally earlier...stayed in the garage far too long with out seeing the cars in action...
- Would have been nice to get some sound bites from people watching the rally.
- No need for a stand-up.

Judge #3

- Solid story.....the stand up didn't have a point, didn't go anywhere after and was not needed.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
“Turkey Tips”
JO2 James Shults

Judge #1

- A few jump cuts aside and weak ending this was an ok story

Judge #2

- Take the story out of the grocery and in to an oven...tell us why you shouldn't cook it long and on low temp.
- Lots of unanswered questions.
- There were some creative shots...which made the piece fun to watch.

Judge #3

- This went up and down in terms of quality.....
- Some jump cuts, but overall solid.

FSD Pearl Harbor

“SEAL Memorial”

JO1 Keith Jones

Judge #1

- Delivery is weak
- Editing is weak
- Story is not very compelling

Judge #2

- This story works much better in this shortened version.
- Good nat sound and good flow in the story.
- Please try to work on the way you voice your stories. Your inflection is flat and does not inspire me.

Judge #3

- Much better version as a DNU vs. the extended version. Better edit choices.
- Delivery too down.....content already somber.
- Writing choices....would have ended on a higher note..."died fighting for what they believed...etc, etc...

HQ, NMC

“Daily News Update”

PH1 Eric Schwab

Judge #1

- All the video that is available and you came up with that? Not compelling

Judge #2

- Why in the world would you not use the wealth of video from the hurricane and the aftermath???
- The interview with the CNO should have been covered with video...
- This was not compelling...

Judge #3

- Good overall newsbreak.
- Should have used more NMC Katrina footage for a break like this.

FSD Norfolk

“LaSalle Decommissions”

JO1 Erik Hoffmann

Judge #1

- Bookend stand-ups ruined this story.
- Levels were off.
- Continuity errors...you can't go from ceremony to post ceremony then back to ceremony.

Judge #2

- This was one big stand-up...there was no need for any stand-up in this piece at all.

- Audio was very poor and video was hot in some sections.
- This is a story about a ship....not about JO1 Hoffman...use the ship and her crew to tell the story next time.

Judge #3

- The bookend stand-ups were not needed and detracted from the story.
- No shots of the ship....no historic photos,...no real history.
- DNU was just one big stand up.
- Not so great

FSD Norfolk
“Katrina SAR”
JO1 Donald P. Rule

Judge #1

- Enunciation needs work
- video on soundbite was a little hot.
- Other than that good job. You stayed out of it and the report flowed on its own, again nice work.

Judge #2

- Great job of staying out of it and letting the Sailor tell the story in her own words....
- Great use of video to support what she was saying...

Judge #3

- Fantastic interview made the DNU....this is a good one.

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Tug of War Warriors”
JO2 Beau Smith

Judge #1

- Jump cut from intro of guy with Tenn. Cap to his soundbite.
- What's with introducing the a bite? This TV, no need to introduce the soundbite.
- Don't use shots of camera people.

Judge #2

- Nice story...good use of nat sound.
- What is your fascination with the other camera crews that were there...at the very least, you should have referenced them.

Judge #3

- Why do you keep cutting to the videographers?
- Odd choices for b-roll, but overall a solid DNU

NMC Det Sasebo, Japan
“Bormann Triplets”
JO3 Melanie Lemus

Judge #1

- Jump cut, poor framing in shots.
- Story is not compelling or exceptional

Judge #2

- Although this story is nice, it doesn't really affect others.
- The shooting was okay, but sequencing would have been nice.
- Big fat jump cut at the start.

Judge #3

- Cute kids, but what's the point? Esp. for a DNU....should have been a short feature / kicker story (at best)

HQ, NMC

“NAS Lemoore Centrifuge”

JO1 Danny Hayes

Judge #1

- Where's the ending?
- A few jump cuts

Judge #2

- this story didn't seem to have a good ending.
- The soundbite in the middle should have been shortened and covered with video.

Judge #3

- No real conclusion or point made

Category Q: Outstanding New Broadcaster

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

JO3 Courtney Dock

Judge #1

- You have a great voice, but I need to hear more than your laughter. You let your co-host run the show.
- Your smoking cessation piece was phenomenal. Great, great writing.
- Remember in the things you say about yourself & about your personal life still reflect on you as a Sailor.

Judge #2

- I really liked your spots...they were well written and creative.
- Maybe the laughing was a bit much in your morning show, nor did there seem to be any real content or point in your show. Do you do news or weather in the show? How do you approach that...let us hear that.

Judge #3

- Good voice quality.....
- Creative writer, good spot production
- I'd like to hear you break out of ditzy, 2nd chair role on DJ shows and take the helm.

NMC Det Rota, Spain

JO3 Nathan Schaeffer

Judge #1

- Would have liked at least one more radio product.
- Voice is sing-songy... listen to your pieces; you'll hear it within the first three sentences.
- Don't put your CO on TV just because he's there. If his soundbite doesn't effectively contribute to the story, why use it?
- Great, great shooting!
- Awesome use of nat sound in each piece.
- You seem to have a talent for interviewing kids, which can be difficult.
- Next time, leave out the cheesecake piece. Didn't enhance your package at all.

Judge #2

- I think you have a lot of potential...you edit very, very well and clearly understand the concept of matching script to video.
- Your sequencing was very good.

- My only bit of advice is to work on your audio track...your inflections and tone is very sing-songy....this can easily be fixed by working on your pacing.
- Great job.

Judge #3

- Great storytelling skills....from writing, shooting and editing
- Work on stand up's and voice tracks....good timber to voice, but falling into sing-song patterns.
- Really solid, watchable stuff overall...enjoyed.

NMC Det Sigonella Sicily
JO3 James Bournes

Judge #1

- Passive writing.
- Washed out video, hot video.
- YOU DO HAVE A TRIPOD, DON'T YOU?
- Soundbite audio levels noticeably different from your voice.
- Radio spot - background music was too loud, Homer Simpson stuff didn't match, website was too long to put in that spot, just not funny at all.
- You have a good, natural broadcast voice.

Judge #2

- Please use a tri-pod, adjust your iris and white-balance. Doing these 3 things will do wonders for your product.
- Open your packages with some NAT sound to set your scene.
- Way too much audio variation in all your stories.

Judge #3

- Average work.....needs improvement in writing and finding the message
- Learn how to work audio levels.....
- Your shooting skills and quality of video you need major work.....where is your tripod?
- Not unwatchable....but work to improve.....this is dry stuff.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
PHAN Drew Williams

Judge #1

- Nice close-ups.
- You need to enunciate more clearly. Have someone with a bit more experience give you some one-on-one training in broadcast writing.
- Rally story - it doesn't have to be chronological. What's the story about? The rally itself. So open with the rally, & then backtrack into how the teams prepared for it. You're talking about a rally we don't see until the story is almost done.
- Windbreaker spot - great! Laughed all the way through.
- Where's the nat sound on the running piece?
- You have the right look... work on your enunciation & do more stand-ups.

Judge #2

- Please make better use of nat sound. All of your stories had great nat sound, yet you were not creative with it, at all.
- Your lighting is inconsistent as are your video and audio levels...
- You have a lot of potential, just make better use of the tools that are at your disposal, such as a tri-pod and lighting kits.
- Loved your spot on the Windbreaker.

Judge #3

- You are showing some real potential.....writing and finding the heart of the story are places to improve.
- Liked the "Windbreaker" spot...very fun.
- Think about more Nat Sound opportunity...
- Good overall.....

FSD Norfolk
JO2 Elizabeth Enockson

Judge #1

- Do not ever, ever, ever open a story with a stand-up.
- Unfortunately, your enunciation problems are more evident in an on-camera standup than when you voice your scripts. Definitely not a strong point.
- If your videographer is giving you poor video, make him re-shoot.
- Very inconsistent audio.
- In your San Antonio piece, you spliced the skipper's soundbite without covering it. That's a "no, no" in TV?
- You had some pretty good video from the POW/MIA ceremony, but the lighting wasn't very good on the interview.

Judge #2

- Your audio levels were all over the place.
- Please do not start your packages with a stand-up...stands-ups are only needed when you need to BRIDGE a story and you do not have a soundbite or video to move the story along.
- Please check your iris and white balance when you are out shooting something.
- Also, your audio in all of your spots was wildly inconsistent...sadly, so was your video.

Judge #3

- Your stand ups are not needed and require work when they are useful to the story.
- Video and audio levels are way off.....improve shooting and editing skills.
- Your strongest story "24 Hour Daycare" is your best work and should have been included for this.....work more toward this style of storytelling....

Category P: Command Information Campaign

NMC Det Sigonella, Sicily
"Marinai Flood"

Judge #1

- JO3 Bournes needs to show more attention to detail in his Shooting.
- Great thought went into coverage!! The spot about the clinic being open for refills, that showed a great awareness of the communities' needs.
- You guys absolutely did what we are here for.
- Bravo Zulu to you.

Judge #2

You all did a great job of letting the affected people know how they could get help.

Judge #3

- Valuable information provided to the community in time of crisis
- Good job all around

Category R: DoN Broadcast Journalist of the Year

NMC Det Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

JO2 Peter Lawlor

Judge #1

- Be your self.
- You changed personalities from the open of your show to when the girls came in. If you're going to develop an on-air personality, stay in character.
- Lack of video cost you point in diversity

Judge #2

- Be careful about using too much nat sound during your spots...audio during ADM Mullen interview was a bit off.
- Do better research during the in-house interviews....cheerleaders had never been down to GITMO, although you stated you had done a lot of research.
- Liked the bowling alley commercial.
- Sweetie-Pete was a bit much

Judge #3

- Interviewing skills need improvement. DJ "persona" a bit much.....be yourself.
- Much stronger on creative spots than DJ segment
- No TV product cost you points in diversity

NMC Det Rota, Spain

JO2 Keith Smith

Judge #1

- Voice work – you seem to be yelling at times...conversational is the desired effect?
- Video - had some hot, soft focus
- On camera - hand position...be natural
- Editing – avoid going from day to night then back to day,
- Interview with Cultural officer for carnival piece - she wasn't at carnival but everyone else was...don't use her
- Radio - The audio doesn't match a live report, I don't think you were actually there, and that hurts your credibility
- Liked your energy. I liked your ability to do it all but you need to refine a few skills. Next year you'll be a contender.

Judge #2

- Your video shooting is inconsistent. Some of your shots are out of focus, and it does not appear to be for artistic reasons, rather just bad shooting.
- Liked the barber shop piece.
- Hated the fly-in graphic for your sound bites.
- The Carnival piece could have been great, but was a bit long...good video and nat sound. Be careful about going from day video to night video...it breaks up the story too much, and is confusing.
- Really liked the SeaBees piece....

Judge #3

- Good energy in voice, writing and storytelling skills.
- Some issues with the "softball" story....does not stand alone and hard to follow.
- Good shooter...nice framing

- Stand ups need work.....calm down.
- Overall...good energy and storytelling skills...solid editor, writer and shooter.....practice more natural stand up gestures....

AFN Vicenza

JO1(SW) Mikel Bookwalter

Judge #1

- Auto story is your best but it is way too long.
- Pakistan story - Opening shot too long, did they ever actually get to the earthquake area?
- SPORT spot- what was that?
- News Break - Be aware of you posture, timing is off on turn, slurred some words

Judge #2

- Please try to be creative with your producing. An over the shoulder once in while would be helpful.
- Where were the people in the auto story? I loved the concept, but would have been better with interaction with people in the piece talking about their experience there.
- The editing on the radio transmitter spot was very good.
- You must, must, must find video of the earthquake devastation if you are going to do a story on the military response to the crisis.

Judge #3

- Anchor Desk stuff....needs work...basics are right , now it's about tempo and pacing.....pick it up.
- Some of the packages are too longlost interest.....stand ups in auto story were not strong.....odd music choice, thought something was wrong when it started up, distracting.
- No video support for aid storytoo much shaky footage ...if you are going to do an aid story...you need to show the "aid."
- Good "one man band" skills ...moving in the right direction and presents well.

HQ NMC

JO1(SW) Liz Murray

Judge #1

- Need to tighten up scripts, many products were too long.
- Spot music changed and was distracting and the pacing seemed off.
- Faces of the Fallen – good story, but too long, too many rack focus movements.
- You're good no doubt about it....but minimal examples of shooting hurt your score.
- After winning this last year and going on to win at DoD last year, why compete in this category again?
- Consider entering non military competitions to see where you stand against your civilian counterparts.

Judge #2

- Very strong writing in your packages, lead-ins and radio piece.
- Your shooting was very strong, as well.
- Thank you for using dissolves, especially in the Faces of the Fallen piece. It helps pace the piece and gives the story great flow. Great choice on the soundbites. You let those involved tell the story. Really, really nice story.
- Thank you.

Judge #3

- Obviously gifted in this craft.....strong anchoring, reporting.
- Great energy and forward motion in voice...able to convey a wide range of emotion.
- Strong editing skills.....strong "Faces of the Fallen" story edit
- Great storyteller !
- An asset to the Navy.

NMC Det Keflavik, Iceland
JO2 James Shults

Judge #1

- Nacho rap – Absolutely great!
- Not shooting most of your package hurt you.
- On the Rocks - Music didn't match and competed with narration, geyser part was terrible
- Talent show - so what?
- Disney story - props for graphics but was too busy

Judge #2

- Loved your nachos radio piece.
- Try to be a little more creative in your On the Rocks piece...your writing was pretty weak, given that you went to 3 different locations.
- LOVED your Taco Bell piece, although the shooting was a bit weak...clearly this was huge news for the base, and that came through in your story.
- Good use of graphics on your Disney piece..

Judge #3

- Creativity is high.....taking chances.....some work, some do not.
- Stand ups and on camera presence need work
- Loved the Nachos rap....Safety Song didn't translate as well....
- Taco Bell story was good....bad choice for close...
- Strong editor , good writer....keep taking chances but not too far out to left field.

FSD Pearl Harbor
JO1 Keith Jones

Judge #1

- All of your products are too long.
- Some of your delivery is slow and tired.
- Video levels were in the mud.
- Use too many dissolves.

Judge #2

- Your stories are way too long. They were video rich, but despite the length and great potential, they were rambling and seemed to lack focus.
- I did like the nat sound you used in the diver piece.

Judge #3

- Need to work on delivery....voice quality, pacing...all too slow.
- Packages are too long.....most end on a low note....goes back to writing.
- Editing is solid, but standard.
- Think about the big picture when writing....look for the energy in writing, editing and voice.

Category T: SITE TV Newscast

USS Tarawa LHA-1 Media Division
“Tarawa News Network”
JO2 Adam Stapleton

Judge #1

- You did an awful lot with limited capabilities. Good on you!
- You'd be able to do more with better gear, but the effort is impressive

Judge #2

- Good job doing stories that are important to your audience.
- You did a great job with the tools you had at your disposal.
- You may want to think about toning down the light on your anchor desk.

Judge #3

- You do a good newscast with solid info with limited resources.
- Well done.

USS Harry S. Truman

“Synergy”

USS Harry S. Truman PA Office

Judge #1

- Would rather see one anchor alone than these two together with no chemistry.
- Very important info, but really deserved a lot more emotion.

Judge #2

- Do the anchors know that they are 'co-anchoring'???? You should attempt to acknowledge each other and have some sort of interaction on the desk.
- There couldn't have been less emotion...it's a shame that this momentous event that the Truman was a part of came across with so little emotion.

Judge #3

- Anchors need to accept that there is someone sitting next to them....please relax.....
- Too many music videos.....own the story...put your mark on it.
- Get into the action ...leave your "set" and get out and around the ship.
- Nice creative spots

USS Carl Vinson

“Cruisin' Eagle News”

JO1(AW/SW) Lorin Sawyer

Judge #1

- Good crew morale.
- Great program, lots of variety, fun with good info at the same time.
- Loved the man on the street.
- Seem to have some very creative people on the team.
- Folks are putting together solid product given shipboard limitations.

Judge #2

- Your PA shop clearly has fun putting their newscast together.
- entertaining and informative

Judge #3

- Fun!
- Great creativity
- Nice special effects....and you still informed while entertaining.

USS Abraham Lincoln
“Newsline Special Edition”
USS Abraham Lincoln

Judge #1

- JO3 Cook has good on-screen presence. Good to see your anchors doing their stand-ups out & about the ship, but watch the lighting.
- Watch your audio levels... very inconsistent from anchors to stories to soundbites. Sounds like your interview audio came from the shotgun mike, but I can see them wearing what looks like a wireless.
- Watch your story order... if you have footage of your Sailors participating in relief efforts, that's your lead story. Why bury it?

Judge #2

- Audio is all over the place.
- I like that you tried to anchor from out on the ship, but be careful about the backlighting.
- Clearly, you have some great video of the destruction...you should have led your newscast with this video....the interview with the Chief Quartermaster should have been lower in the show.
- Your show stacking is way off...lead with your best...get the audience involved from the start!

Judge #3

- Backlit Anchors !!!!!????!!!!!! No, no.
- You did not stack your show properly....that old radio story is bottom of the list in favor of your great disaster footage.
- Not so hot if this is your overview of the work your ship did.

Category U: SITE Spot Production

USS Harry S. Truman
“Frank and Cokie”
JO3 Michael Campbell

Judge #1

- Decent effort.
- Original concept.
- Could have taken it a bit further, but overall good effort.

Judge #2

- Show me some video of the actual trash...
- Funny concept.

Judge #3

- Love the read on the intro / out

USS Harry S. Truman
“PRT Readiness”
JO2 Megan Parfitt

Judge #1

- Not great, not awful. Not memorable. There are consequences of failing the PRT, show one or two.
- Sequencing will help you get around that medium shot...always edit sequences!

Judge #2

- This was pretty average....should have shown video of the guy collapsing during the PRT.

Judge #3

-Average

USS Boxer

“Thrift Savings Plan”

PH2 Steve Vanderwerff

Judge #1

- Gets the info out, but barely.

Judge #2

- Please tell the audience how much they can save...who they can contact to start saving...

-This was boring and not informative

Judge #3

- Below average.

USS Carl Vinson

“Carl Vinson Idol”

JO2(SW) Devin Dorney

Judge #1

- Definitely made me curious about the show.

-Looks like you really had fun with it, and that's great!!!

Judge #2

- This started out slow...but then came together...made me want to watch the Idol show...just to see how tragic it is sure to be

Judge #3

-I'm curious to see the show

USS Dwight D. Eisenhower

“Ike 5-Star”

JO2 Michael Perez

Judge #1

- Cute!

-You could have gone many directions with the beginning, and I was pleasantly surprised.

Judge #2

- This was very funny, but you should have tagged out with where one can get the paper and how many times it comes out

Judge #3

-better than average

Category V: SITE TV Report

USS Harry S. Truman

“White House Chiefs”

PH3 Greg Pierot

Judge #1

- Opportunity for a great human interest piece, but too vague.

Judge #2

-Where is your nat sound?

-Use some lights...

-Give us a scene setter....and a pay-off at the end.

Judge #3

- General.....look for a more interesting way of telling the story.

-Not much interest here and video, audio and editing didn't help.

USS Carl Vinson

“Vinson/Guam COMREL”

JO2 Chris Fahey

Judge #1

- Solid. Good story, good coverage of Sailors getting involved.

Judge #2

- This was a nice piece....good sequences.

Judge #3

- Solid work....but standard product

USS Carl Vinson

“Vinson Fun Day”

JO1(SW/AW) Lorin Sawyer

Judge #1

- OK, you had your Fun Boss describe all the events they had, which you showed, and no quotes from Sailors talking about whether or not they had fun. It LOOKED like fun, so let me hear about it

Judge #2

- Let's talk to the sailors...not the Fun Boss.

-Also, use the nat sound from the band!!!!

Judge #3

- No sailor interviews!?

-Needs work

USS Dwight D. Eisenhower

“Ike Farm “

JO2 Benjamin Bellweg

Judge #1

- Where's my nat sound????? I can see the rake going through the dirt, why can't I hear it? You let that rake shot drag out forever, you could have killed a few seconds by letting the nat sound pop.

-Audio inconsistent. Narration is hot, hot, hot; interviews way too low.

-Decent shots, but pretty weak overall visually.

Judge #2

- What does Ike look like?

-Good sound bites with the Sailor, but we really needed to have the interview with the Park official shortened and covered with video of the actual farm, not just the fence.

-Your iris was all over the place, as were your audio levels.

Judge #3

-Why does the rake and dirt shot go on forever ?!

-Below average

Category W: SITE Open

USS Tarawa LHA-1 Media Division

“Dr. Ron Hamm MLK Day Interview”

JOC(SW/AW) Gabe Puello

Unable to view...technical problems with media

USS John F. Kennedy

“JFK Today”

JO2 Timothy J. Cox

Judge #1

- Not fabulous. Not horrible. Don't submit to this competition just for the sake of making a submission.

Judge #2

- There was nothing original about this...your hosts were not entertaining, nor did there seem to be a focus or flow or structure to the show.

Judge #3

-No comments

USS Carl Vinson

“Carl Vinson Idol Preview Show”

USS Carl Vinson

Judge #1

- Great, great, great!!!!

-Wonderful concept, hope your crew enjoyed it as much as we did!

-Looks like something VINSON really got into

-very impressed.

-The real question is, WHO WON???

Judge #2

- This was a clever concept and done pretty well.

-Your host was energetic and explained the competition well.

Judge #3

- Fun show, great idea!

-Way to pull off multi cam production!

USS John C. Stennis

“Video Cruise Book”

USS John C. Stennis

Judge #1

-Tighten up your editing... no reason to have dead air & black screen.

-You did a great job getting around the ship, giving coverage to Sailors from different departments/divisions.

-Your videographers actually had to go down into the laundry.

-Good quality photos/videos.

Judge #2

- This was really well shot....
- The music was upbeat and went well with the images we were seeing.

Judge #3

- Great overview of the cruise.
- Very well shot and edited....great soundtrack.

USS Dwight D. Eisenhower

“Combat Systems Ship Qual Trials”

USS Dwight D. Eisenhower

Judge #1

- Missiles, missiles and more missiles. No Combat Systems Sailors working on the launchers? No Weapons Sailors bringing missiles up on deck? Anything?

Judge #2

- This was shot well...but I'm not really sure what the point of it was and who was your target audience.
- No story was told...no information put out...

Judge #3

- No comments